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COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Soviet Exploitation of Albanian Oil Wells

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. In 1945, the Soviets began feverishly to exploit the oil fields located near
25X1 Patos. There are currently 100 oil drills operating, most of which were
25X1 imported from the USSR although some were left behind following the Italian
occupation. Patos does not have a refinery.
2. Between 700 and 1,000 men, working in three shifts, are employed on the
project. The oil is shipped 30 miles by underground pipe to Vlone where
it is loaded for shipment to the Soviet Union. The insignificant quantity
retained by the Vlone refinery does not meet Albanian needs.
3. Twenty homes have been built in Patos for the management of the oil fields.
Geologists, technicians, engineers and other specialists employed are ex-
clusively Soviets. The workers live in the village of Dukas, now known as
New Patos, where 50 homes have been built for their occupancy. They are
poorly fed and clothed.
4. In 1951, four new roads were mapped out on the oil fields near Kucove and
will be completed within a short time. The roads, totalling about 15 kilo-
meters in length, will serve to link the oil fields with the main offices.

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